A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, May 15. 1707.

THE laſt REVIEW was a neceſſary Interruption from the Subject of the former, to clear up the Memory of the moſt Glorious of Monarchs from a ſlyly inſinuated Aſperſion thrown upon it: The Author's being at ſuch a Diſtance from *London* and the Printer's, and being unable for that Reaſon to receive Intelligencies duly and in Order, 'tis hop'd will ſerve as an Apology, that no exacter Method is obſerv'd.

The laſt REVIEW but one contain'd Part of a Paper publiſh'd and diſpers'd in *Edinburgh*, Entitled *A Voice from the South*, &c. which continues thus——

1. All the Men of Liberty and Property, all the Oppoſers of the Bloody, Tyrannical, and Arbitrary Proceedings of the former Reigns; theſe, whether they are Church of *England* Men or *Diſſenters*, whether Men of Religion, or of no Religion, have been all for this Union, and have ſtruggled for it, as it has been apparently the true and direct Method for eſtabliſhing Liberty, reſtoring Right, ſuppreſſing Injury, and oppreſſing Powers, and erecting the juſt Sovereignty of Civil Juſtice, Law and Conſtitution.
2. All the Men of Peace, Charity, Temper and Moderation, that have abhorred forcing the Conſcience, and raviſhing Men of Principles, that have own'd Perſecution to be Antichriſtian, and are willing People ſhould be permitted to obey GOD rather than Man: Theſe, whether Church of *England* Men or *Diſſenters*, have

have been all for it: These have sought it by all possible Methods, have argued for it on Earth, and pray'd for it from Heaven. And they that have pray'd against it, if any have been so weak, may know now whose Prayers have prevailed.

3. All the Men of Piety, Zeal and true Concern for Religion; Men whose Faces are Heaven-ward, who converse most there, and whose Interest there makes their Judgment worth Notice, who, we have Reason to hope, are directed from thence, and who always move as so directed; these have chearfully fallen in with this Union, rejoyce in it, are giving Thanks for it, and wonder to hear any of their Brethren here, who claim to belong to the same Inheritance, of another Opinion.

To look back from these, who shall we find against it, and now finding Fault with it? and the Observation here is as edifying as the other.

1. All the Men of Blood, Tyranny, and Oppression, all the Engines of Arbitrary Government, who made themselves fat with the Spoils of their Country, and that ravaged the Liberties of the People *a la Dragoon*; all the State *Harpyes* that fed upon the Bowels of their Native Country, and sacrificed the Laws and Properties of their Brethren, to the Lust and Avarice of their Princes; *These hate the Union*, abhor the Methods, and dread the Event, fearing their Hopes of being restored to the Privilege of Plunder, and the Pleasure of Blood, will be for ever blasted and destroy'd.

2. All the Men of Fury, Men of Persecution and Prosecution, the Bigotted Zealots either of Ecclesiastick, or Party-Tyranny, that are for driving People to Heaven against their Consciences, as we may call it; *For they will force them a Way, they believe will never carry them thither.* These are against the Treaty; because the Sovereignty of Conscience over the Commands of Men, being acknowledg'd by it, Men of Principles will be protected and guarded from their Cruelty.

3. All the Men of no Principles, all the Rakes, Debauchees, and Men of Scandal, all the Sons of Hell, the Factors of Crime, and Promoters of Vice; these universally clamour at the Union, as what they have good Reason to fear will be a Foundation of Law, Vertue, Punishment, and Reformation.

'Tis an unhappy Necessity forces us to add to these a fourth Sort, who we are sorry to find in such bad Company; we mean a few honest, well-meaning, pious and zealous Christians, our Brethren, and for whom we have a sincere Regard, tho' we think them un-enlightned, and ill inform'd in this Affair.

'Tis hard, that these should joyn to do the Work of such as those; that their Actions should correspond so much, and their End so little; that they should be so near in their Methods, but so remote in their Designs: And we thought this, if nothing else could, should have open'd the Eyes of our Brethren in that Case.

But all this is over, the Union is ended, and we were in Hopes, That as, when Men in Societies agree to be ruled by the Majority, they acquiesce in things, which perhaps they voted against; so we hoped, that all the sober, pious, and well-meaning People, would have seen themselves over-ruled as by Providence, and submitted.

But it is the Grief of good Men, and the Joy of the Enemies of our Peace, to see the same People continually accusing their Brethren, and with Fears and Jealousies, rendring them uneasie on this Account; and this is the Subject of this Paper.

As nothing can tend to promoting the real Happiness of these two Nations in the Union, like a Harmony of Interests and Affections between us; so nothing can tend to the strengthning the Hands of the Enemies of our Peace more, than to have us fill'd with Distrust, Breach of Confidence, and Jealousies one of another.

'Tis on this Account, this Address is made, humbly and earnestly to entreat all our Brethren to consider, whose Battle they fight, for whom and against whom they engage, whose

whose Work they are doing, and who they are wilfully undoing. This would be a happy Meditation, and would tend very much to the bringing us all to our Senses again, to the general Quiet and Satisfaction of the whole Nation.

The *Dissenters* in *England*, whatever may be insinuated to the contrary, standing upon the same Foundation both of Liberty and Religion, as the present Kirk of *Scotland*, tho' with less Security, cannot see the least Reason, why they should be reflected on by any in this Church, as not being to be depended upon for their Assistance, in case of Infractions to be made on the Articles of Union, their Concern in electing the last Parliament in *England*, (the best that Nation ever enjoy'd) their unanimous Adherence to the said Parliament in pursuing this Union, and their known and visible Consent in every thing that could contribute to the Benefit of the Church of *Scotland*, may be a reason sufficient, tho' the *Particulars are too long to be inserted on here*, to convince any reasonable Person, that the *Dissenters* in *England* are to be trusted, depended upon, and confided in, for all they can possibly do, *within the Compass of Religious and Civil Duties*, to assist, maintain, support and defend their Brethren of the Kirk of *Scotland*, against all Manner of Injustice, Oppressions, Infractions of Treaties, Invasions of Liberties, and any Danger that can befal them from their Union with *England*.

'Tis plain, That whenever such Danger happens, it must be in Defiance of Law, Justice, and the whole *British* Constitution; and it is as evident the *Dissenters*, *and even the moderate Church-men also*, have always been the constant Opposers of all the Attempts, whether publick or private, that have been made to lessen the Authority of the Laws, and to the Prejudice of Truth and Liberty.

Nor can they now have less Concern for the General Good, Safety and Protection of the Kirk of *Scotland*, than for their own, the Foundation of both being alike, and the Union being as absolutely to be kept Sacred to them, as to you.

There is one thing must not be omitted here, and that is, that all the Men of Temper, Morals and Moderation in our *Southern* Part of *Britain*, however differently denominated, are now unanimously driving at a further Union, we mean that of Affection, which seems the great Happiness, the present Union is form'd to bring about; and it is the the great Aim and Design of these Men to lay aside the *now* antiquated and out of date Prejudices, that have so long disturb'd the Peace, and deferr'd the Happiness of *Britain*.

Heaven seems to have inspir'd the Nation with a new Spirit and Genius, and the old Apostolical Rule, *Mark them that make Divisions among you*, is not only become a Maxim of Government, but the Theme of almost all Conversations; the Test of a true *Britain*; and they that are observ'd to do so, are only the discountenanced, dispirited, sinking Remains of the Government's Enemies.

On these Accounts it is, That this humble Application seems necessary, at this time, to represent to this Nation, how pernicious the Endeavours of those People must be, whoever they are, that would create Distrusts, Jealousies, and Misapprehensions in the Minds of the good People here, of their Brethren in *England*, by which the good Effects of the Union would be, as far as lies in them, disappointed, all the mischievous Designs of a corrupted and malicious Party gratified and promoted, the Protestant Interest weakned, and the Peace of this Nation obstructed.

All which is sincerely Recommended to the Consideration of all the Lovers of Peace, and all that have a just Value for the General Good of this Church.

†‡† The Reader is desir'd to correct the following Error in our last; *viz. P.* 158. *Col.* 1. *l.* 35. for *Humour*, r. *Honour*.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

AS a Doctor *was barbarously treated in many Pages of* Elisa, *a Physician of the* College-Dispensary, (*which gives to the People their Right to the Cheapness of the Medicines necessary in Sickness, as of Bread in Health, and preserves the Royal Family and Nobility,*